ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

— OF THE —

.. Eighteenth Annual Session ..

— OF THE —

Mobile Baptist Association,

— HELD WITH —

Zion Baptist Church, Mertz, Mobile Co., Ala., October 6th, 7th and 8th, 1898.

OFFICERS:

R. L. MAUPIN, ... Moderator
J. N. POLLARD, ... Clerk
G. J. ROBERTSON, ... Treasurer

The next meeting of the Association will be held with Bay Minette Church, Bay Minette, Ala., Thursday, Nov. 2, 1899, at 10 o'clock A. M.

GRAHAM & DELCHAMPS, PRINTERS.
MOBILE, ALA.

MINUTES

— OF THE —

MOBILE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

MERTZ, ALA.

FIRST DAY—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1898.

(1) Pursuant to appointment the Mobile Baptist Association convened with Zion Church, Mobile county, this morning at 10:30 o'clock.

The Association was called to order by the former Moderator, Brother R. L. Maupin.

On account of the removal from the state of Rev. J. G. Lowery, and the unavoidable absence of Rev. Bynum, there was no introductory sermon preached.

Devotional exercises were held, conducted by Rev. H. C. Mason, messenger from Chickasahay Association. These services were participated in by many of the brethren. For the benefit of the delegates who were expected in the afternoon, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 m., to meet again at 3:30 p. m. for organization.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

(2) Pursuant to adjournment the Association was called to order at 2:30 p. m. by Brother R. L. Maupin.

(3) After devotional exercises the Moderator appointed Brothers J. N. Pollard and W. A. Alexander as a committee to read the church letters.

(4) Letters were presented and read from the Palmetto Street, Zion, Shady Grove, St. Francis Street, Pine Grove, Union, Bayou La Batre, Mauvilla, Citronelle, Grand Bay and Bethany Baptist churches, and their delegates enrolled as follows:

Palmetto Street—J. A. Stikes, E. Gaston, W. H. Hill, Rev. J. M. Hall, H. H. Shell and J. E. Patterson.

Zion—R. F. Farnell, J. N. Pollard and J. H. Bolton.

Shady Grove—A. J. Hubbard and W. P. Huston.

St. Francis Street—R. L. Maupin, J. H. Locke, W. A. Alexander, D. W. McGaughey, James Munroe.

Pine Grove—Not represented.

Union—W. A. Deakle, S. L Freeland, W. L. Fields.

Bayou Le Batre—Rev. Milton Robertson.

Mauvilla—Rev. James Munroe, J. F. Williams.

Grand Bay—J. E. Alberson.

Bethany—Rev. D. W. Bosdell S. D. Philyaw, T. C. Gaston, H. F. Cross, Miss George Newell and Miss Minnie Newell.

Citronelle—T. Coleman.

Bay Minette—A. M. Thompson, W. R. White, S. B. Stanmyers, J. D. Bynum and J. L. Lambert.

Mount Pleasant—Rev. J. R. Newell and T. M. Helveston.

Bay Shore—Not represented.

Brook Cedron—Not represented.

Visitors—H. C. Mason, from Chickasahay.

(5) The Association then went into election of officers, which resulted in the unanimous election of R. L. Maupin as Moderator, J. N. Pollard, clerk, and G. J. Robertson, treasurer.

(6) On motion the deacons of Zion Church were appointed as a committee on devotional exercises and hours of meeting of the Association.

(7) On motion Rev. D. W. Bosdell was granted permission to address the Association on the subject of taking up a collection for general purposes at the session of the Association, after which Rev. D. W. Bosdell moved that no collections be taken during the session of the Association, except for a particular or special purpose.

After discussion by Brothers Shell, Alexander, Robertson and Locke, the motion was lost

(8) The committee on devotional exercises reported as follows: Preaching at 7:30 p. m., by Rev. Milton Robertson; the Association to meet at 10 a. m. Friday; preaching at 11 a. m., by Rev. James Munroe; adjournment at 12:30; assemble at 2:30 and adjourned at will; preaching at 7:30 p. m., by Rev. D. W. Bosdell.

(9) The report of the Executive Committee, in the absence of Brother E. O. Fowlkes, the chairman, was read, at the request of the Moderator, by W. A. Alexander.

The following is the report:

Your Executive Committee beg to report as follows: The chairman and secretary of the Executive Committee have often been in consultation regarding the welfare of our Associational work, and have jointly attended to all its minor details. On September 7th a meeting of the committee was held in the lecture room of the St. Francis Street Baptist Church. The course adopted by the Association of grouping the churches together, of securing the services of a pastor for each, has resulted in great good in those fields where it could be accomplished. Bayou La Batre, Grand Bay and Union churches called Brother Milton Robertson as their pastor They were enabled to do this through the supplementary aid of our committee, and we rejoice to know of our Master's cause being greatly strengthened and built up in those churches. Other missionary work has been done within our borders by Brother Robertson. There is a great work to be done in our lines. Our committee has faithfully executed its pledges, yet we realize our Associational Baptist work is not gaining ground as it should. We do pray God for the men and means to push His work as we are commanded. A more systematic collection towards missions is recommended.

Respectfully submitted,

E. O. FOWLKES,

For the Committee.

On motion the report was received.

Brother W. H. King, alternate delegate from Mauvilla church, stated that he was obliged to leave for home, and asked to be excused, which request was granted.

The report of the treasurer of the Executive Committee, G. J.

Robertson, in his absence was read by Rev. Milton Robertson.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER—RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand, as per report in minutes of last year	$ 36 81
Amounts turned over by Finance Committee at last Association: For minutes, $29 05; orphanage, $14 87; missions, $33 45; total	77 37
Collected of the subscriptions made at Whistler for the mission work of the Association	75 43
Christian Endeavor Society of Grand Bay: Home, $3 00; Foreign $3 00; total	6 00

STATE MISSIONS.

St. Francis Street Church	230 60
Union Church	5 79
Bayou La Batre	5 00
Shady Grove	8 85
Citronelle	16 22
Mauvilla Church and Sunday School	5 75
Cypress Creek Sunday School Union Mission	1 00
Palestine Church, through Miss T. Toomer	3 40
Whistler	7 50
Grand Bay	2 50
Total	$ 482 22

DISBURSEMENTS.

Baptist Orphanage	$ 14 87
Printing minutes, 500 copies	29 05
Assisted Shady Grove Church to pay Pastor	70 00
Assisted Grand Bay	56 25
Assisted Bayou La Batre	56 25
Assisted Citronelle	88 25
Assisted Mauvilla	60 00
Remitted W. C. Bledsoe, State Secretary	29 33
Total	$ 404 00
Balance on hand	78 22

Respectfully submitted,
G. J. ROBERTSON, Treasurer.

On motion the report was adopted.
The report on Home Mission was read by J. H. Locke.

THE REPORT ON HOME MISSION.

"There is a land of every land the pride,
Beloved by heaven o'er all the world beside;
Where brighter suns dispense serener light,
And milder moons imparadise the night;
A land of beauty, virtue, valor, truth,
Time-tutored age and love-exalted youth.

* * * * * * * *

"Where shall that land, that spot of earth be found,
And thou a man, a patriot, look around?
Oh! thou shalt find, howe'er thy footsteps roam,
That land thy country and that spot thy home."

And we might add to these beautiful words of the poet, look around. if thou art a Christian, and in this beautiful land of ours, where God has done so much for us, and realize how much it lacks

of being all it ought to be, and that it is our mission to make it brighter and better. And our Saviour has told us, "the harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth laborers into the harvest," for we show love to God and country best when we are carrying out the commands of Christ, for it is only in obedience to Him that this country of ours can be either truly great or glorious. The Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention was instituted for this purpose, and to this end it works, that throughout this land and its adjoining islands, now happily free, shall be preached the gospel of Christ. And to aid it in its work it asks for your prayers and contributions, and in the concluding portion of its last annual report makes the following request:

"We ask that all who love God, and lovers of their country and humanity, unite in an earnest effort to bring America to Christ, that He may use America in the world's redemption, and for this purpose our churches be asked to contribute not less than one hundred thousand dollars the coming year."

The report of the Home Mission Board informs us of a gratifying increase over the previous year in the number of baptisms. There was a greater increase in the South than any other part of the world. This should lead us not to relax our efforts, but rather to increase them, as the field is widening and enlarging in greater proportion than any increase we have yet made. I copy from the Home Mission report the following

SUMMARY:

Missionaries	467
Baptisms	4,739
Received by letter	4,770
Churches constituted	103
Houses of worship built	45
Houses of worship improved	68
Amount expended on houses of worship	$596 29
Sunday Schools organized	297
Teachers and pupils	7,710

It would take up too much time to go into details in the work of the Board when all need our aid, and all have lights and shades of encouragement and discouragement. But since the report has been made to the Convention, Cuba and Porto Rico have been freed from Spanish and Romish oppression, and the gates of opportunity are wide open in that direction. We understand the Home Board has already taken steps to send missionaries to Porto Rico, and no doubt the small load of exiles from Cuba will soon return to their home to carry on their work. While this land of ours has been ringing with the praises of the heroes of Santiago and Manila, it is not out of place in this report to notice the heroism of two of our missionaries, the Revs. D. I. and John Pierson, as displayed in the yellow fever epidemic at New Orleans in 1897, in their faithful attendance at their post of duty, ending, in the case of the Rev. D. I. Pierson, of life itself. They give an example of Christian faithfulness which is worthy of imitation by all who profess to be followers of Him who gave up His life for us.

And now, in conclusion, may we not expect every one here will do his best to meet the desires and expectations of the Board for the ensuing year that the work may go forward in all the directions which the Lord is opening up for us.

H. S. STACKHOUSE,
For the Committee.

The report was received and laid over to be discussed with the State and Foreign Mission reports.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Mission was read by the chairman, Rev. H. H. Shell.

FOREIGN MISSION.

The spirit of missions is the spirit of Christ. That Jesus was Himself a missionary is proven by His whole life, and in His parting commandment He committed to His disciples the custody and future of His work. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," is the command of our risen Lord. Obedience to the divine commandment, and operation upon the divine plan must accomplish the divine purpose. "The field is the world." The whole includes all the parts. The spirit of Foreign Mission embraces all the rest. The last report shows the past year to have been a fairly good year with the Foreign Mission Board. The Board is out of debt. Brother Willingham, in his report, says: "We went to the Convention last year owing $13,532 29, while in 1896 the indebtedness was $31,900.70. We are glad that this year we can report everything paid, and $2,975 in the treasury. Surely we have cause for great gratitude to God." Southern Baptists gave to Foreign Mission last year $124,246.69. Of this amount $119,000, Alabama gave the pitiable sum of $5,950.74, of this amount our Association gave $306.23.

The latest statistics of the work shows the following:

China—Number of churches 21, stations 29, missionaries 40, native helpers 43, baptisms 208, membership 1,499.

Africa—Churches 6, stations 4, missionaries 3, native helpers 10, baptisms 43, membership 313.

Italy—Churches 21, stations 15, missionaries 1, native helpers 45, baptisms 53, membership 481.

Mexico—Churches 23, stations 23, missionaries 13, native helpers 17, baptisms 101, membership 1,132.

Brazil—Churches 2, stations 13, missionaries 13, native helpers 15, baptisms 283, membership 1,274.

Japan—Churches 1, stations 8, missionaries 6, native helpers 7, baptisms 11, membership 61

The report shows that during the past year our missionaries in foreign fields have baptised into their churches 701 happy believers, and raised among their members for the advancement of the cause the handsome sum of $6,556.76. We praise the Lord for His many mercies.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

On motion the report was received and discussed by Brothers James Munroe and Milton Robertson.

The Association then adjourned until 10 a. m. Friday.

At 7:30 p. m. Rev. Milton Robertson preached from the text of Romans 12-16: "Be not wise in your own conceit."

SECOND DAY—FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7TH.

After devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. J. S. Lambert, the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

Letters were received and read from the following churches, Mount Pleasant and Bay Minette, and their delegates enrolled. All visitors were accorded the privilege of the floor, after which a sermon was preached by Rev. James Munroe, from the text Hebrews 6-12: "That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who, through faith and patience, inherit the promises" And after

prayer by Rev. Milton Robertson the business of the Association was taken up.

The report on State Mission was called for, but as it was not ready for submission it was passed until to-morrow.

The report of the Executive Committee, which had been received, was then called up for discussion, and remarks were made by E. O. Fowlkes, Milton Robertson and R. L. Maupin.

The meeting then adjourned to meet at 2:30, at which time the report was to be further debated.

AFTERNOON SESSION—FRIDAY, 2:30 P. M.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, and after devotional exercises the petitionary letter for membership in this Association from the First Baptist Church, Theodore, Ala., was received and read, and on motion the church was unanimously received and welcomed into the Association by the Moderator.

The report of the Executive Committee was then called up and discussed by Brothers E. O. Fowlkes, H. H. Shell, D. W. Bosdell, W. A. Alexander, J. S. Lambert, J. M. Hall, J. S. Lumbard, L. Fields, R. L. Maupin and H. P. Hanson.

The report was then adopted.

Rev. H. C. Mason requested to be permitted to address the Association on the subject of his mission work before leaving. He gave the Association quite an interesting account of the condition of the Baptist cause in the field of his labors, and elicited the deep sympathy of all present for the destitution of preaching that prevails.

On motion a vote of thanks was unanimously tendered to Hon. E. L. Russell, president of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, for his kindness in granting to our missionary, Rev. H. C. Masson, a free pass on the M. & O. R. R.

Rev. J. M. Hall spoke of the condition existing in the church at Daphne, and on motion the Executive Committee was requested to look after the matter.

The Moderator announced the following committees:

Finance Committee—W. A. Alexander, W. H. Rowell and A. J. Hubbard.

Nomination Committee—E. O. Fowlkes, J. H. Bolton and J. E. Alberson.

The Committee on Nomination then retired and reported the following as the Executive Committee for the ensuing year; E. O. Fowlkes, W. P. Roberts, J. E. Alberson, A. J. Herbert, G. J. Robertson, Jas. L. Coleman, A. M. Thompson, Chas. C. Coleman, S. L. Freeland, J. N. Pollard, T. C. Gaston, W. J. Young, R. L. Maupin.

On motion the report was received and adopted.

Committee on Devotional Exercises reported as follows: Preaching Saturday at 11 a. m, by Rev. J. S. Lambert; 7:30 p. m. by Rev. J. M. Hall. Sunday School address at 9:30 a. m., by W. A. Alexander. Missionary Sermon at 11 a. m. by Rev. H. H. Shell.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet at 7:30 p. m.

At 7:30 p. m. Rev. D. W. Bosdell preached a most interesting sermon from 1st Peter 2-5.

THIRD DAY—SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8TH.

After devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. H. P. Hanson, the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

On motion of W. A. Alexander Rev. J. S. Lambert was elected as a committee of one with power to select a committee to arrange

with him for holding fifth-Sunday meetings in the bounds of this Association.

The report on State Mission was read by W. A. Alexander.

Report on State Mission.

The report of the committee on the kindred subjects Home and Foreign Missions, so ably represent the needs and interest of State Missions that they recommend that the report on Home Missions be amended so as to include the report on State and Home Missions and discussed under that head. Respectfully submitted,

J. H. BOLTON,
For the Committee.

This report, together with the reports on Home and Foreign Missions, were discussed by Brothers Bosdell, Newell, Alexander, Shell, Hall and Hanson, and on motion was adopted

Rev. H. P. Hanson represented the pressing need of assistance for the interest at Brook Cedron and Bon Secour, and on motion the matter was referred to the Executive Committee for special investigation.

The report on woman's work was read, in the absence of Miss Lida Robertson, by Rev. Milton Robertson.

Report on Woman's Work.

The yellow fever last fall, the war and our sick soldiers, together with other inevitable preventions, have rendered it impossible for the committee to devote the usual time and attention to the work which have been applied to it heretofore to secure reports and results. Five Sunday schools have been visited, and improved methods presented of teaching primary pupils, and manifold suggestions proffered for the advancement of our Sunday schools, which have been adopted.

Through the instrumentality of Miss Lula Toomer, one of your committee, a Sunday school was maintained through the school term, and subsequently an appeal from her to secure a minister to conduct a protracted meeting was answered, and a special visit from her, together with the meeting, resulted in 21 conversions to our denomination. The women are at work all along our lines for our various interests and charities, but I regret to say it requires much effort to obtain a report from them of the work which they have done.

LIDA B. ROBERTSON,
Vice President.

The report was discussed by J. R. Newell and W. A. Alexander, and on motion was adopted.

The report on temperance was read, in the absence of the chairman, by the clerk.

Report on Temperance.

Your committee feel their inability to write a report on temperance. We feel that religion is the only solution of the temperance problem, and we feel sure that if we, as Christians, keep ourselves pure and temperate the example thus seen will accomplish more than all that can be said on the subject. The physical examination of the young men of our country recently by the national military authorities, has shown the fearful results of intemperance. A conservative calculation of the amount spent each year for intoxicating liquors, and the taxation necessitated by drunkenness, is two billion dollars, which is four times as much

as the total cost of our nation's war with Spain. Brethren, as far as within us lie, let us correct this evil.

THE COMMITTEE.

The report was received, and after discussion by Brothers Alexander, Newell and Robertson, on motion was adopted.

The report on Sunday School, in the absence of the chairman, G. J. Robertson, was read by M. Robertson.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

No church can prosper without a Sunday school. A church without one is practically dead. Only two churches in the Mobile Association have none, and they are about to disband. They have no preaching and no pastor, hence are churches in name only. How can it be otherwise. The young must take the places of those who pass away, and when they are left untrained and untaught how is it possible for them to do so? All the schools in our churches are doing well. Several mission schools are accomplishing good work, and some of them have contributed more toward mission than some of the churches. As the study of the scriptures is of such vital importance to Baptist churches, the pastors are urged to give the subject the attention which it deserves. The Master has assured us, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Therefore to those upon whom falls the burden of keeping up a Sunday school, we say, never give up, since the word which you teach shall outlast the heaven and the earth. Respectfully submitted,

G. J. ROBERTSON,
E. O. STAPLETON,
NOEL TURNER,
Committee.

The report was discussed by Brothers W. A. Alexander, J. S. Lambert, R. L. Maupin and others, and adopted.

Rev. J. S. Lambert offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Sunday schools of all the churches in this Association be organized into a Sunday school convention, to meet annually in conjunction with this Association.

On motion the subject was referred to the Sunday School Committee.

Brother W. A. Alexander offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Association earnestly recommends that Sunday schools represented in this Association adopt and subscribe for the Sunday school literature published by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, at Nashville, Tenn., and that the purchase of this and all other church and Sunday school supplies be made through Brother J. B. Collier, secretary of the Colportage Board, at Montgomery, Ala.

On motion the resolution was adopted.

On motion of Rev. H. H. Shell the subject of colportage was struck from the list of standing committees.

The Moderator appointed as a committee on the next place of meeting, J. S. Lambert, W. A. Alexander, T. C. Gaston.

On motion the Association adjourned till 2:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION—2:30 P. M.

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator.

Rev. J. S. Lambert, from the Committee on Fifth Sunday

Meetings, reported the following as the committee: J. S. Lambert, Bay Minette; T. C. Gaston Whistler; J. C. Stikes, Palmetto street; E. O. Fowlkes, St. Francis street; J. H. Bolton, Zion.

The report was adopted.

On motion of Rev. D. W. Bosdell the work of the B. Y. P. U. was added to the list of standing committees, consisting of Rev. H. H. Shell and E. O. Fowlkes.

On motion of Rev. H. H. Shell a committee was appointed to report on the subject of Orphans' Home, and the brethren retired and reported as follows:

Our orphanage, located at Evergreen, Ala., has had a bright and successful life. The Home has been liberally supported from the beginning by the Baptists of the State. The beautiful and comfortable buildings which they now occupy have all been paid for. We heartily recommend it to the support of the Baptists of this Association. Respectfully,

THE COMMITTEE.

The report was adopted.

The following report from the Committee on Nominations was read and adopted:

Southern Baptist Convention—H. H. Shell, alternates, D. W. Bosdell and R. L. Maupin.

The committee on time and place of holding the next meeting of the Association reported, and recommended the acceptance of the offered invitation of Bay Minette as the place the date of meeting to be the first Thursday, Friday and Saturday in November, 1899.

T. C. Gaston offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the good people of Zion church and this community for the genuine hospitality accorded the Association.

The resolution was adopted.

Brother W. A. Alexander offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of the Association be tendered to the clerk for faithful work, and that he be allowed $10 for his services.

The resolution was adopted.

The chair announced the following committees to report at next session:

State Mission—G. J. Robertson, W. H. Pollard, J. R. Newell.

Home Mission—James Munroe, A. J. Hubbard.

Foreign Mission—J. S. Lambert, J. E. Alberson.

Sunday School—W. A. Alexander, A. M. Thompson, H. S. Stackhouse.

Temperance—H. H. Shell, J. H. Bolton, J. O. Bolton.

Education—J. L. Pollard, T. C. Gaston.

Woman's Work—Miss Lida Robertson, Miss Lula Toomer, Miss Avie Farnell.

Orphanage—D. W. Bosdell, J. H. Bolton, T. Coleman.

Delegates to State Convention—H. H. Shell; alternate, J. S. Lambert.

B. Y. P. U.—E. O. Fowlkes, D. W. Bosdell. H. H. Shell.

A motion was made and adopted that a collection be taken up after preaching this evening, for the Orphans' Home.

The meeting then adjourned to meet at 7:00 p. m.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment at 7:00 p. m.

Preaching by Rev. J. S. Lambert. In the absence of the Moderator, Rev. H. P. Hanson was requested to preside.

W. A. Alexander read the following report on finance:

The Committee on Finance report receipts of cash per letters:

	Mission.	Minutes.
Bay Minette	$15 00	$ 2 05
Shady Grove	2 86	75
Mauvilla	——	1 00
Mount Pleasant	3 55	2 00
Bethany	——	3 00
Zion	4 05	2 00
St. Francis Street	——	10 00
Palmetto Street	——	5 00
Collection, Special Asso	——	11 75
Grand Bay	——	50
Union	——	2 00
Bayou Le Batre	——	1 00
Shell Banks, by Hanson	1 00	——
Total collected	$26 46	$41 05
Grand Total		$67 51

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. ALEXANDER,
W. H ROWELL,
A. J. HUBBARD.

On motion the report was received and adopted.

The report on Ministerial Education was read by W. A. Alexander.

Ministerial Education.

If there ever was a time in the history of our denomination when any of the members said they considered it unnecessary for the Baptist ministry to be instructed in the whole mind of Christ, that time, your committee is thankful to say has passed away. To-day the churches are unanimous in the opinion that the greater knowledge their pastors have of God's word the better and more qualified under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to lead them into divine truth; cause them to feed in the green pastures, and drink of the sweet, still waters of their Saviour's love, thus enabling them to satisfy the yearning desire of every Christian heart, "To be fruit, not leaves, for their Master." The question now is, not the desirability of an educated ministry, but what, under existing conditions, is the best, most expeditious, practical and economical method of obtaining it. Our schools, colleges and seminaries are necessities, and all doing grand and noble work, of which the denomination may well be proud. And your committee would not be understood as intending to detract in the slightest from their merits when they called the attention of the Association to the action of the last Alabama Baptist State Convention in establishing the Institute Board and inaugurating in this State what has already proven to be one of the most successful methods of ministerial education. Your committee feel assured the importance of the work is such that they will but perform the duty assigned them by incorporating as part of this report the following address of the Executive Committee of the Institute Board to the Baptists of Alabama:

"Brethren—During a number of years many of us have very

much desired to aid our preachers on the field, many of whom have not been favored with opportunities for Bible and sermonic study as they wished and longed for. At the last meeting of our State Convention a board was created to meet this long felt want. This board is called the Institute Board, and is located at Opelika, with W. E Dudmon, Esq., president, and Rev. G. S. Anderson, of Auburn, secretary and treasurer. This board is charged with the duty and responsibility of aiding our field ministers in Alabama. The board employed Dr. Anderson to hold ministers' institutes, and to instruct our preachers on the field, by correspondence, in sermon scripture and Bible study, and to aid them in every way possible to him, and to engage such assistance as he may be able to secure. Many preachers have expressed their gratitude for the help which they have already received. That it is a good work on an untouched field there is no sort of doubt. This work does not mean to interfere with or lessen the volume of any other work, being done by the denomination, but in the end to quicken and broaden all of our work. To do this work it requires money to meet the expenses incurred, and the more given us the more help we can extend. The volume of your contributions will fix the boundaries of our ability to help these preachers in their study and work. We believe that it is a sacred obligation to help these brave and faithful preachers of the gospel; we believe that to aid these hundreds of preachers who are leading our Baptist hosts in Alabama, is the surest, quickest and most scriptural way to touch and help all of our churches and denominational interests in the State; and we most earnestly solicit thoughtful pastors in every section to aid us in the work which we have commissioned Dr. Anderson to do. Our ministers may aid us vastly. Will they help us or hinder us? This is a serious question, and we pray that it may be answered in the spirit of the blessed Master, who called these men to work in His vineyard Contributions for this work should be sent direct to Rev. G. S. Anderson, secretary, Auburn, Ala. Fraternally,

"W. E. HUDMAN,
"G. H. HORNADY,
"JNO. P. SHAFFEN,
"Executive Committee."

Your committee fervently seconds this appeal of the Executive Committee, and recommends the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1st. That the Mobile Baptist Association heartily endorse the objects and recognize the claims of the Institute Board of the Alabama Baptist State Convention upon our churches for help in their efforts to make known more perfectly and effectively God's word and will among the people.

Resolved, 2d. That the claims of the Institute Board shall in the future be recognized in all our churches by incorporating it as one of the regular objects of our beneficence, with a set time appointed to receive a collection for the work.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

After discussion by Brothers Lambert and Bosdell the report was adopted.

In accordance with the arrangement made a collection was taken for the Orphans' Home, at Evergreen, Ala., amounting to $7.06. There being no further business the Association closed its labors, to meet at Bay Minette, on the Thursday before the second Sunday in November, 1899, at 10 a. m.

The closing services of the Association were made most interesting by some very feeling remarks from Brothers Hanson, Bos-

dell and Lambert, expressing the great pleasure they had received in attending the session of the Association, and also by Brother W. A. Alexander, who, in his closing remarks, expressed his gratitude to God for enabling him to attend the Association for more than thirty successive years, and he felt as if every year might be his last. Let us hope that God will spare such a useful and most interested member for many years more.

"Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow," was sung as the parting hymn, and after the benediction the Association adjourned to meet with Bay Minette church, Thursday, November 2d, 1899.

SUNDAY, 9:30 A. M.

The Sunday School services were conducted by Brother W. A. Alexander, to a large, appreciative and interested audience, after which the missionary sermon was preached by Rev. H. H. Shell, from Hebrews 11-27, after which the collection for State Mission was taken, amounting, in cash and pledges, to $36.09.

R. L. MAUPIN,
Moderator.
J. N. POLLARD,
Clerk.

NOTES BY THE CLERK.

Misses Avie Farnell and Evelyn Hatchett, as organists, added greatly to the interest of the meetings.

By the efforts of Master Horace Pollard the church was kept in order for all meetings.

The storm Friday night did not keep the church from being well filled.

Among the visitors were Dr. and Mrs. Oliphant and daughter, and others from Mobile; the Misses Edwyna Turner and Sallie Stevens from Shady Grove, and quite a few from Whistler.

ORDAINED MINISTERS CONNECTED WITH THE ASSOCIATION.

Lambert, J. S.	Bay Minette, Ala
Newell, J. R.	Springhill, Ala
Hanson, H. P	Gasque, Ala
Lumbard, J. S.	Theodore, Ala
Thompson, J. U.	St. Elmo, Ala
Judd, E. P. H.	Whistler, Ala
Myers, D. S	Whistler, Ala
Bosdell, D. W.	Whistler, Ala
Shell, H. H.	Mobile, Ala
Hall, J. M.	Mobile, Ala
Taylor, J. J., D.D.	Mobile, Ala
Munroe, Jas.	Mobile, Ala

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This body shall be styled THE MOBILE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, and it shall meet annually at such time and place as may be duly determined.

ARTICLE II.

It shall be composed of all pastors within the bounds of this Association, and of messengers from Baptist Churches holding substantially the Articles of Faith adopted by this body, at the rate of one messenger for every twenty-five members.

ARTICLE III.

We adopt as our scripture belief the "Declaration of Faith" as published in the Baptist Church Manual, by the American Baptist Publication Society at Philadelphia, Pa.

ARTICLE IV.

Its objects shall be, without interfering with the independence of the churches, to concentrate Christian effort in the promotion of the Redeemer's Kingdom at home and abroad.

ARTICLE V.

Its officers shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall perform the usual duties of such officers. They shall be elected annually by ballot, and remain in office until their successors are elected. The offices of Clerk and Treasurer may be in one.

ARTICLE VI.

Corresponding messengers from other bodies of our denomination shall be entitled to all privileges except voting.

ARTICLE VII.

The business of this Association shall be conducted, between its sessions, by an Executive Committee, of thirteen members, appointed annually, five of whom shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Treasurer shall receive and distribute all funds belonging to the Association and give an itemized report thereof annually.

ARTICLE IX.

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call to order by former Moderator.
2. Introductory Sermon.
3. Enrollment of Delegates.
4. Election of Officers—Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Appoint Special Committees, viz: (a) Devotional, (b) Nomination, (c) Finance, (d) Deceased Ministers.
7. Receive Correspondence and Visitors.
8. Appoint Correspondents.
9. Miscellaneous Business.
10. Reports of Standing Committees, viz: (1) Executive Committee. (2) Mission: (a) State, (b) Home, (c) Foreign, (3) Education. (4) Temperance, (5) Woman's Work, (6) Sunday School, (7) B. Y. P. U., (8) Orphanage.
11. Report of Special Committees, viz: (a) Nomination, (b) Deceased Ministers, (c) Finance.
12. Report of Treasurer.
13. Elect Executive Committees.
14. Elect Delegates to State and Southern Baptist Conventions.
15. Miscellaneous Business.
16. Adjournment.

Organized.	Name of Church.	Location.	Pastor.	Clerk.	Clerk's Office.	Membership Last Report.	Increase.				Decrease.				Present Membership.
							Baptism	Experience.	Letter.	Restoration.	Letter.	Exclusion.	Erasure.	Death.	
1845	St. Francis Street	Mobile	J. J. Taylor	W. A. Alexander.	Mobile	644	10		26		18			7	655
1872	Palmetto Street	Mobile	H. H. Shell	J. E. Patterson	Mobile	355	22		25	2	12	38		10	344
1878	Bethany	Whistler	D. W. Bosdell	T. C. Gaston	Whistler	147	14	4	8		2	1		7	163
1876	Zion	Mobile County		J. N. Pollard	Mobile	75			2		5			2	70
1883	Shady Grove	Mobile County	J. P. Bynum	Noel Turner	Brannon	48	3			1		2		1	49
1868	Union	Mobile County	M. Robertson	Wm. L. Fields	St. Elmo	89	10			1	4			1	95
1878	Mount Pleasant	Mobile County	J. R. Newell	J. A. Wolff	Semmes	51	1				1	2			49
1886	Citronelle	Citronelle	James Munroe	C. C. Coleman	Citronelle	13	1		2		1			1	14
1858	Shell Banks	Baldwin County	H. G. B. Ray	Samuel Nelson	Gasque	70									
1878	Bay Minette	Baldwin County	J. S. Lambert	H. G. Stannmyer	Bay Minette	74	26		10	3	3			3	107
1881	Bay Shore	Baldwin County				31									
1881	Bayou Le Batre	Mobile County	M. Robertson	O. T. White	Bayou Le Batre	37			3			1			39
1894	Pine Grove	Mobile County													
1851	Brook Cedron	Baldwin County				45									
1896	Grand Bay	Mobile County	M. Robertson	J. E. Alberson	Grand Bay	17	2		1		1				19
1896	Mauvilla	Mobile County	J. Munroe	A. B. Williams	Mauvilla	15									15
1897	Theodore	Mobile County	J. S. Lumbard	H. W. Bolton	Theodore	31									31
	Totals					1742	89	4	87	7	47	44		32	1650

Churches.	Church Expenses.	Sunday Sch'l Expenses.	Pastor's Salary.	Foreign Mission.	Home and Indian Mis.	State Mission.	Ministerial Education.	Money raised by Sunday School.	Indigent Ministers.	Baptist Orphanage.	Ministers.	Total.	Church Property.			
													Houses Worship	Value.	Sittings.	Total Value of Prop'ty
St. Francis Street	$2823 00		$2400 00	$ 208 65	$ 122 61	$ 230 60				$ 50 00	$ 10 00	$5874 85	1	$ 60000 00		$ 60000 00
Palmetto Street	847 79	$ 36 10	1000 00	8 94		10 00		$ 32 35			5 00	1980 18	1	10000 00		10000 00
Bethany	284 00		420 00			32 80	$ 3 50	20 00		12 25	3 00	975 62	1	3000 00		3000 00
Zion	107 00		125 00		5 25	4 00		8 00	$ 12 00	4 00	2 00	367 25	1	1600 00		1600 00
Shady Grove	15 45		125 00	3 70		11 91		3 89			75	160 69	1	500 00		500 00
Union	2 00		101 39			6 79		6 00		7 52	2 00	125 70	1	500 00		500 00
Mount Pleasant			22 00								2 00		1			150 00
Citronelle	19 00		160 43		11 21	4 30		16 00			1 00	204 94	1	1000 00		1000 00
Shell Banks													1			600 00
Bay Minette	167 29	20 85	128 85	5 00	5 00	5 00		17 44		6 50	2 05	357 98	1	1500 00		1500 00
Bay Shore													1			500 00
Bayou Le Batre	74 40		30 00		5 00					3 65	1 00	124 05	1	1200 00		1200 00
Pine Grove													1			
Brook Cedron													1			
Grand Bay	22 50		24 93	3 00	3 00	2 50		3 00			50	59 43	1			400 00
Mauvilla			100 00			5 75		8 00		2 00	1 00	116 75	1	400 00		400 00
Theodore			47 50							5 25		52 75	1	190 00		190 00
Totals	$4136 74	$ 56 85	$4663 29	$ 229 19	$ 151 07	$ 314 17	$ 3 50	$ 114 68	$ 12 00	$ 91 17	$ 30 70	$9869 04	17	$ 79288 00		$ 79288 00

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

Superintendent.	Officers and Teachers.	Scholars Enrol'd.	Av. Attendance.	Scholars Baptiz'd	No S. S. P. taken
D. P. Bestor	31	265	154	8	250
W. J. Young	19	154	.....	.....	.....
W. P. Wood	12	140	80	7	210
W. N. Pollard	4	45	30	.....	40
A. J. Hubbard	3	40	.....	.....	.....
W. L. Fields	4	.....	35	.....	.....
A. G. Woodbury	6	28	.....	.....	.....
G. L Lambert	8	75	.....	.....	.....
W. M. White	7	65	.....	.....	.....
Dexter Russell	4	.....	12	.....	.....
J. C. Williams	4	17	.....	.....	.....
J. O. Bolton	5	45	25	5	.....
Totals	107	874	336	20	500